

## **Minutes of DAAC Meeting**

### **Attendance**

DAAC members present were: Seren Derin, Chair; Joe Tringali, Vice-chair; Irene Barrelet, Clerk; and Jim MacRostie

Others present were Gerry Weiss, Select Board representative; and Nathaniel Malloy, DAAC staff liaison.

Absent: Joan Rising; and Dana Goddard.

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Derin called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pasta E Basta located at 24-26 Main Street will continue to work with the Architectural Access Board to upgrade their first floor (take-out counter and seating) to make it fully accessible.

### **MINUTES**

Minutes from the July 14, 2009 meeting and the August 12, 2009 were reviewed. No corrections were found. Mr. Tringali made a motion to accept the minutes, Ms. Barrelet seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (4-0) to accept the July and August minutes as submitted.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### *Private Parking Lots—Letter of Agreement from Property Owner*

Members of the DAAC confirmed that tickets are now being issued for cars parked illegally in HP spaces on private property. It was suggested that the Police Department and other relevant Town staff be contacted in 3-4 months to determine if the number of tickets for HP violations has actually increased, and to determine whether the penalty fine be increased. Members also agreed by consensus that it is important to continue working the Chamber of Commerce to have local businesses sign a voluntary letter of agreement allowing the towing of illegally parked vehicles from HP spaces on private property. The discussion revealed that there are a few HP parking spaces in the Town Center that are constantly used illegally:

- ~ Bank customers park in the HP space near the Jones Library
- ~ The HP space near Unitarian Church and Rao's
- ~ The Bank of America alley parking

#### *57 North Pleasant Street—AAB Site Visit*

Mr. Malloy explained that the Architectural Access Board (AAB) held a site visit at 57 North Pleasant Street to inspect recent renovations. The AAB noted large (3/4" or greater) gravel was used in the walkway leading to the rear patio, that a handrail was missing along the ramp at the front entrance, and that dry-laid pavers, which could be prone to heaving and separating, were used for the rear patio.

Other

The committee asked if the private parking lot located on South Prospect Street and owned by Bank of America is required to provide HP parking. Although an employee-only lot during business hours, afterwards it becomes a public lot through an agreement with the Town.

**OLD BUSINESS**

High School Auditorium

Ms Derin reported that the seating and signs at the high school auditorium were a success and working great.

Jones Library Parking

The Committee is waiting to schedule a site visit to the library.

Amherst Cinema

Mr. Tringali explained that when he recently added the Amherst Cinema a manager on duty offered to relocate customers sitting in HP seats.

Visitability

Mr. Tringali explained that visitability is different from universal design because it is only access to a floor (in a residence) that has a bathroom and bedroom which are also accessible. He asked if the Town could incentivize visitability using a point system or tax relief.

Ms. Derin noted that to make visitability a requirement in the regulations would require change at the state level and involve amending the building codes.

Other

Ms. Derin said that Chez Albert on South Pleasant Street now has a portable ramp that helps facilitate access to the restaurant. She said that their staff is also very accommodating.

**Next Meeting(s)**

December 15, 2009 @ 3:00 pm.

January 12, 2010 @ 3:00 pm.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Nathaniel Malloy, staff liaison